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in the Plantations is one among them. The rules under the Minimum Wages Act, which will be enforceable in this State, are under examination and will be issued shortly.''

Opening of new high schools.

* 705 *Q.*—SRI P. KUNHIRAMA KIDAV: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many new high schools have been started by the Government in Malabar since 1948;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that an endowment, besides pakka building and all equipments, is necessary for sanctioning private agencies to start high schools; and

(*c*) whether there is a proposal before the Government to enlarge the basis of grants for building and equipment of high schools?

THE HON. DR. M. V. KRISHNA RAO :—" (*a*) The Government did not open any new high school in the district but they have taken over the management of two non-Government high schools.

" (*b*) The creation of an endowment and the provision of necessary equipment of suitable and adequate accommodation are among the essential conditions of recognition insisted upon by the Director of Public Instruction. The managements are however given time to build up the endowments in stages. They are also required to provide in the first instance the minimum equipment required for the immediate use of the school and suitable and adequate temporary accommodation.

" (*c*) No."

Firka Development Committees.

* 706 *Q.*—SRI V. R. KRISHNA AYYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Rural Welfare be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have issued any instructions that M.L.As. should not be made ex-officio members of Firka Development Committees; and

(*b*) whether there are any M.L.As. in Malabar who are members of Firka Development Committees?

THE HON. SRI S. B. P. PATTABHI RAMA RAO :—
" (*a*) No.

" (*b*) None."